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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| In the Application of: |) |
| |) |
| Richard L. Palinkas |) Examiner: B. Pezzlo |
| |) Group Art Unit: 3683 |
| Title: SIDE BEARING PAD |) |
| |) |
| Serial No.: 09/407,053 |) |
| |) |
| Filed: September 27, 1999 |) (Our Docket No. 6350-05) |

Hartford, Connecticut, February 18, 2003

BOX: AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

S I R:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 19, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted:

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5 - 8, 10 - 15 and 17 - 22 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 3 - 8, 10 - 14, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlston (U.S. Pat. No. 4,998,997) in view of Magowan (U.S. Pat. No. 136,079) in view of Platkiewicz (U.S. Pat. No. 4,465,799) and further in view of Curtis (U.S. Pat. No. 5,036,774) and Spencer et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,086,707).